

Inspection Regulations for Slaughter and Processing of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Ratites (Ostrich, Emu and Rhea), Buffalo and Fallow Dear in North Carolina

Can I slaughter and process these animals on my farm for personal use?

- Yes, for personal use, individuals may slaughter, prepare and transport carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of these animals. Producers may also provide carcasses, meat, etc. without charge to friends, family and nonpaying guests.
- Unless a producer meets state inspection and slaughter regulations (see the following section) carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of these animals are *not eligible for sale*.

Can I process and sell the meat from these animals to paying customers?

- If processed in accordance with county health inspection regulations and governance, carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of such animals are eligible for *retail sale only*.
- If processed in accordance with state or federal inspection regulations and governance, carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of these animals are eligible for both wholesale and retail sale.

Can I custom slaughter or process these animals for other people?

- Yes, but only with an NCDA&CS approved custom-slaughter facility. (With an approved facility, there is no limitation on the number of animals which may be slaughtered or processed.)
- Products and product packages from custom-slaughter facilities must be stamped *Not for Sale*, and may not be sold to consumers.
- Owners of animals must transport animals and animal products to and from processing facility.
- At custom-slaughter facilities, the owners may slaughter or process for personal use.

	equipment and structures.
Can	I raise, slaughter, process and sell meat of wild game species for profit?
•	No native game species maybe bought or sold.
•	A permit is required to hold any native species of wildlife in captivity.

At approved custom-slaughter facilities, the NCDA&CS inspects and monitors sanitation,

Prepared by:

M. Ray McKinnie, Ph.D Extension Animal Science Specialist North Carolina Cooperative Extension North Carolina A&T State University Greensboro, North Carolina 27420 Information for this Fact Sheet was provided by:

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services

Division of Animal Health – Meat and Poultry
Inspection
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611
&
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Raleigh, North Carolina 27604